

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

**October 20, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL:** Don Thompson, Ben Babin, Anthony “Tony” Rouchon, John Brass, David Hoover, William “Carey” Jenkins, Terry Louque, Jerry Thibeau, Kenneth Wade Welborn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Willie George Lee, Larry Thomas

**NOTE:** Vacant Seat(s) Livingston Parish, St. Helena Parish

**ALSO PRESENT:** ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston, Bobby Duplantier (6:20 pm) USACE

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Thompson.
2. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
3. Minutes
  - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Babin to approve the September 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented.
4. Financial Statement Report
  - Rouchon presented to the Board the September 2015 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Brass, second by Hoover to approve the September 2015 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
5. Report by Executive Director - Discussed the following items:
  - CRDC: Discussed the following:
    - Bypass Rd at Hwy 61: The USACE issued a contract to build a section of the Bypass Rd needed for the construction of the bridge at US Hwy. 61.
    - Land acquisitions: The LADOTD began acquisition negotiations with owner of 3 small properties along the eastern side of Carney Rd. Closing negotiations on 2 relocations after sale along Carney Rd.
    - Negotiating with 8 property owners within the CRDC Project in the McHugh Swamp area. Canal right-of-way and mitigation lands.
    - Assessment of utility relocations along US Hwy. 61 and KCS RR at future canal crossing.
    - USACE has determined that the Brooks Lake Closure will be a required feature of the project to prevent erosion in the vicinity of Brooks Lake caused by future excess (flood) waters from the Comite River Diversion Canal.
    - Rietschier suggested the development of a cost matrix to desegregate cost by construction features. This will facilitate estimating future pre-construction and construction cost and budgeting of the project. This was presented to the Project Management Team composed of the USACE, DOTD, ARBC and City Parish of East Baton Rouge.
    - ARBC prepared a Capital Outlay request for FY 2015-16. It will be submitted to the Division of Administration before November 2, 2015.
    - Rietschier brought the Board up-to-date on the status of the Amite River Diversion Canal Study.
6. Report by ARBC Legal Counsel:
  - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Hoover to enter into Executive Session for 10 minutes to discuss pending litigation: ARBC v. Land Investment of Louisiana Inc. et al, 19th Judicial District Court Docket 633880 Div. D. This may be handled in executive session pursuant to La.R.S. 42:17 A(2), A(4), or A(10).
  - The Board exited Executive Session. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover second by Thibeau to approve an offer of \$20,000 – Administrative Settlement regarding ARBC v. Land Investment of Louisiana Inc.
  - Capital Outlay: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Thompson to submit an application (Comite River Diversion Canal Project) into the DOA for Capital Outlay prior to the November 1, 2015 deadline.
7. Old Business:
  - DOTD Invoice – The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Babin to authorize payment of \$2 million to DOTD as ARBC obligation for 5% cash construction contribution.
8. New Business:
  - Resolution 1119 – Phase 1 – CRDC – Hoover suggested amending the resolution to state “primary focus” instead of “all of ARBC tax financial resources and efforts.” The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Babin to approve said Resolution as amended.
  - Resolution 1120 – Amite River Weir - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Hoover to approve said Resolution as presented supporting the efforts by the PLD and Ascension Parish and will provide any assistance towards obtaining the finances to do the improvements.

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9. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Rouchon to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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/s/ Don Thompson  
Don Thompson, ARBC President  
Date: December 15, 2015, 2015

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/s/ Toni B. Guitrau  
Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary